CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (original) A release-agent applicator (1) for a moving press belt (3) of a continuous-throughput press, having an applicator roller (4) pressable against the belt (3), a dosing roller (4) pressable against the applicator roller (4) and sitting in a release-agent bath (5), actuators (7) for adjustably positioning the dosing roller (6) relative to the applicator roller (4) and the applicator roller (4) relative to the belt (8) with a pressure determined by the amount of release agent to e applied to the belt (3), and control means for regulating the pressures depending on the required amount of release agent.

2. (original) The release-agent applicator (1) according to claim 1, characterized in that the applicator roller (4) has a compressible outer layer (9), for example is formed as an elastomer-coated roller.

3. (currently amended) The release-agent applicator (1) according to claim 1 [[or 2]], characterized in that the dosing roller (6) is a raster roller, for example having a structured outer surface.

4. (currently amended) The release-agent applicator (1) according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 [[to 3]], characterized in that

the dosing roller (6) has a predosing doctor blade (10) and the applicator roller (4) has a dosing doctor blade (11).

5. (currently amended) The release-agent applicator (1) according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 [[to 4]], characterized in that the pressure applied by the applicator roller (4) and/or the dosing roller (6) is monitored by pressure sensors, pressure bolts, pressure measurers, or pressure cans and passed through amplifiers to the control means.

6. (currently amended) The release-agent applicator (1) according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 [[to 5]], characterized in that the ~~positions of the rollers, for example the~~ active and inactive positions of the applicator roller (4) and of the dosing roller (6), are monitored and reported by initiators, pressure switches, and/or end switches.

7. (currently amended) The release-agent applicator (1) according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 [[to 6]], characterized in that the applicator roller (4) and the dosing roller (6) are ~~movable, e.g.~~ pivotal, by piston-cylinder units, e.g. pneumatic actuators (7, 7a, 7b) as positioning apparatus into their positions.

8. (currently amended) The release-agent applicator (1) according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 [[to 7]], characterized in that the pressure applied by the applicator roller (4) and the dosing roller (6) is controlled or regulated by proportional valves.

9. (currently amended) The release-agent applicator (1) according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 [[to 8]], characterized in that the applicator roller (4) and the dosing roller (6) are driven synchronously with respect to each other and to the belt.

10. (currently amended) The release-agent applicator (1) according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 [[to 10]], characterized in that the applicator roller (4) is rotatably mounted on a support (12) that is pivotal on at least one frame (13) and that the dosing roller (6) is rotatably mounted on at least one respective support (14) that is pivotal on the applicator-roller support (12).

11. (currently amended) The release-agent applicator (1) according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 [[to 10]], characterized in that supports (12) at both ends of the applicator roller (4) and if necessary at both ends of the dosing roller support (14) for the dosing roller (6) are connected by synchronizing shafts (16) that limit the extent of relative pivoting between the applicator-roller supports (12) and if necessary between the applicator-roller supports (14).

12. (currently amended) The release-agent applicator (1) according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 [[to 11]], characterized in that the release-agent bath (5) is provided in a release-agent trough (8) or in a doctor-blade chamber (17).

13. (new) An apparatus for applying a coating of a liquid to a workpiece moving past a treatment location, the apparatus comprising:

a stationary frame;

a vessel holding a bath of the liquid adjacent the location;

a first support on the frame movable in a direction toward and away from the workpiece between the workpiece and the vessel;

an applicator roller wholly outside the bath and rotatably mounted on the first support;

a second support carried on and movable on the first support;

a dosing roller partially immersed in the bath and rotatably mounted on the second support;

means including a first actuator braced between the frame and the first support for displacing the first support inward in the direction to press the applicator roller against the workpiece at the location and outward in the direction to separate the applicator roller form the workpiece;

means including a second actuator separate from the first actuator and braced between the first support and the second support for displacing the second support independently of movement of the first support inward to press the dosing roller against the applicator roller and outward to separate the dosing roller from the applicator roller.

14. (new) The coating apparatus defined in claim 13, further comprising

control means connected to the actuators for, in order to suspend a coating operation,

operating the first actuator to displace the first support outward and separate the applicator roller from the workpiece while leaving the dosing roller in contact with the applicator roller and

thereafter operating the second actuator to displace the second support outward on the first support and separate the dosing roller from the applicator roller.

15. (new) The coating apparatus defined in claim 13 wherein the workpiece is a belt passing generally continuously at a travel speed past the location, the apparatus further comprising

respective first and second drives for rotating the rollers at speeds synchronous with the travel speed of the belt.

16. (new) In combination with a continuous-througput press having a belt moving through a treatment location, an apparatus for applying a coating of a liquid to the belt, the apparatus comprising:

a stationary frame;

a vessel holding a bath of the liquid adjacent the location;

a first support on the frame movable in a direction toward and away from the belt between the belt and the vessel;

an applicator roller wholly outside the bath and rotatably mounted on the first support;

a second support carried on and movable on the first support;

a dosing roller partially immersed in the bath and rotatably mounted on the second support;

means including a first actuator braced between the frame and the first support for displacing the first support inward in the direction to press the applicator roller against the belt at the location and outward in the direction to separate the applicator roller form the belt;

means including a second actuator separate from the first actuator and braced between the first support and the second

support for displacing the second support independently of movement of the first support inward to press the dosing roller against the applicator roller and outward to separate the dosing roller from the applicator roller.